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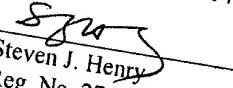
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The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 15th day of January, 2004.


Steven J. Henry
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action mailed August 11, 2003, kindly amend the above-referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Drawing begin on page 2 of this amendment.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

Please amend the application as follows: